Sask milk

Newsletter
August 2016

Latest Research – Be Informed!

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In addition to the regular Research Report feature, we are and will be passing on a great number of research summaries. These summaries are provided by the University of Saskatchewan, and will be included in the next several months' newsletters. If you would like any further information about any of the projects, please feel free to contact the researcher listed at the bottom of each summary.

Effect of feeding different flaxseed-based products on the rumen microbial community of dairy cows evaluated by high-throughput DNA sequencing

Ezequias Castillo-Lopez, Janna Moats, Nirosh Aluthge, Hugo Ramirez Ramirez, Hector, Tim McAllister, Christopher Anderson, David Christensen, Timothy Mutsvangwa, Gregory Penner, and Samodha Fernando

This study evaluated how differing flaxseed-based products, fed to lactating Holstein cows, alters the rumen microbial population. The flaxseed products evaluated included a non-processed flaxseed-based product, an extruded flaxseed product, and an extruded flaxseed product that also contained tannins. All the flaxseed products were compared to a standard barley-based diet. While many changes in the microbial community structure were detected, changes in the groups involved in saturating fats in the rumen were decreased when extruded flax was included. This information will help to design strategies that help to prevent milk fat depression and to increase beneficial fatty acids in milk.

Greg Penner *greg.penner@usask.ca* *306-966-4219*

Effects of feeding canola meal or wheat dried distillers grains with solubles alone or in combination as the major protein sources on ruminal function and production in dairy cows

Saman Abeysekara and Timothy Mutsvangwa

Canola meal is a good quality protein supplement that is readily available and is used extensively in dairy cow diets in Canada and the USA. On the other hand, major growth of the ethanol industry in western Canada has resulted in large quantities of wheat dried distillers grains with solubles (WDDGS) being available as an alternative protein supplement for dairy cows. *(continued on next page)*

Continued….

The objective of this study was to determine the effects of feeding canola meal or wheat dried distillers grains alone or in combination as the major sources of protein on ruminal fermentation characteristics and production in dairy cows. The results show that when dairy diets are formulated to contain 17.6% crude protein, canola meal or wheat dried distillers' grains can be fed alone or in combination as the major sources of protein and can support similar levels of milk production.

Timothy Mutsvangwa *tim.mutsvan@usask.ca* *306-966-1695*

The effects of partial replacement of barley starch with lactose on production and ruminal fermentation characteristics in dairy cows

Eranga De Seram, Gregory Penner, and Timothy Mutsvangwa

Previous studies have reported improved DMI and milk production when dietary starch was replaced with sugars in corn-based diets, but there is limited work with barley-based diets. Because corn and barley starch differ in their rates and extents of ruminal degradation, it is important to determine if replacement of barley starch with sugars is beneficial as has been reported for corn. The objective of this study was to determine the effects of partial replacement of barley starch with lactose (as dried whey permeate; DWP) on DMI, milk yield and composition, and ruminal fermentation characteristics. These results of this study suggest that partial replacement of barley starch with lactose improves ruminal nitrogen use efficiency, but production performance was unaffected.

Greg Penner *greg.penner@usask.ca* *306-966-4219*

Molecular physiology of rumen papillae following an acidosis challenge

Coral Kent-Dennis, Alex Pasternak, and Gregory Penner

Ruminal acidosis occurs when cattle are fed highly fermentable diets and is associated with reduced productivity of individual cows. Part of the reduced productivity is speculated to be associated with immune system activation. The objective of this experiment was to evaluate the effect of ruminal acidosis on the expression of genes regulated by the immune system in the rumen. Ruminal acidosis was induced by reducing feed intake for 1 d followed by over feeding on the subsequent day. This study demonstrated that induction of ruminal acidosis induces an acute anti-inflammatory response and provides new insight into strategies to prevent or dampen the effects of ruminal acidosis.

Greg Penner *greg.penner@usask.ca* *306-966-4219*

Chemical and energy profiles of value added pellet products based on combination of new co-products from bio-fuel/bio-oil processing, low grade of peas and lignosulfonate chemical compound at different levels for ruminants

Victor Guevara, David Christensen, John McKinnon, and Peiqiang Yu

The aim of this project was to test and develop eight high value-added pellet products based on combination of co-products from bio-fuel/bio-oil processing, low grade peas and lignosulfonate at different levels for ruminants. Pellet products based on carinata meal combined with peas has potential to be utilized as a good energy and protein source compared with pellet products based on canola meal combined with peas.

Peiqiang Yu *peiqiang.yu@usask.ca* *306-966-4132*

CNCPS fractions of value added pellet products based on combination of new co-products from bio-fuel/bio-oil processing, low grade of peas and lignosulfonate chemical compound at different levels for ruminants

Victor Guevara, David Christensen, John McKinnon, and Peiqiang Yu

Carinata meal, a new co-product from bio-fuel processing, may be a viable protein source for dairy cattle. However, there is little information available on the chemical profile, as well as its nutritive value especially when it is blended with other feedstuff as a pellet. The aim of this project was to test and develop eight high value added pellet products (BPP) based on combination of co-products from bio-fuel/bio-oil processing, low grade of peas and lignosulfonate at different levels for ruminants. This study found that carinata meal can be used as a potential feed ingredient for dairy cattle.

John McKinnon *john.mckinnon@usask.ca* *306-966-4137*

Research Report

I hope that everyone has had a good summer, we certainly received a lot more rain than was predicted this spring!

Dr. Greg Penner has provided us with several research updates that will be placed in the newsletter over the next several months (these updates are too large to put into one newsletter). Dr. Chris Luby also has an update on the hoof wart project which will also be shared. The glycerol project that showed very promising results is still waiting for CFIA approval before we can begin field trials. Dr. Bernard Laarveld has been in discussion with CFIA and believes that issues with approval can be resolved; all that I can add is, "stay tuned"!

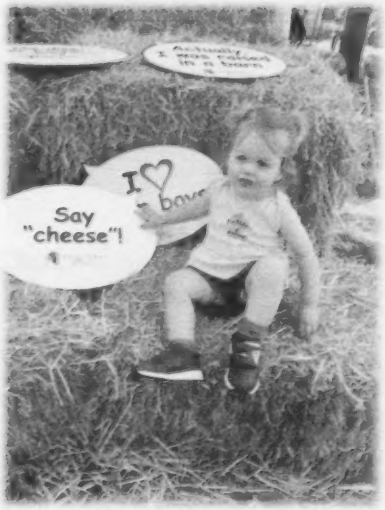
There will be a one day workshop at the Rayner Centre in October to show proper pain control – a better understanding of early detection of hoof problems can make you more money, and keep the cows a lot happier! We will also be having a brief talk on proper culling, as we need to remember that once the cow leaves the barn our obligation to the cow's best well-being is not over until she has reached her final destination! There is only room to accommodate 30 people at this workshop and we do need to charge $50/person to cover off the cost of lunch, materials, etc. Deb Haupstein has the official invitation in this newsletter for you to respond to, please contact her at either (306) 721-9486 or (306) 536-3860. Remember, reply early to guarantee your place!

I hope you all have a successful, safe harvest!

- Jack Ford

Peak Performance Hockey Camp

Regina Queen City Exhibition



Taste of Saskatchewan

Rayner Dairy Research and Teaching Facility Summer Projects

- Dr. Joe Stookey and Deanna Larsen are investigating whether lameness influences the use of brushes for cows;
- Dr. Greg Penner and Silvia Menajovsky are evaluating the interaction between the partial mixed ration energy density and the amount of concentrate fed in the robot on voluntary milkings, milk production and composition, and ruminal fermentation;
- Dr. Tim Mutsvangwa and Tonderai Chambwe are evaluating how whey permeate inclusion affects nitrogen use by dairy cows;
- Dr. Tim Mutsvangwa and Audrey Makurumure are evaluating investigating novel feeding strategies to improve nitrogen use by dairy cows;
- Drs. Tim Mutsvangwa and Sam Abeysekara are evaluating optimum inclusion levels of camelina meal (a new feed ingredient) in dairy cow diets; and
- Dave Christensen and Jackie Kroeger are evaluating how dietary fat supplements alter digestibility of fiber and minerals

RAYNER CENTRE DAIRY WORKSHOP OCTOBER 18, 2016

Tuesday October 18, 2016 a Dairy Workshop will be held at the Rayner Centre.

Registration:	8:45 am
Morning sessions:	9:00 am - 12:30
Lunch (provided):	12:30 – 1:00 pm
Afternoon sessions:	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The day will be divided into 4 hands on demonstrations/presentations with groups alternating between the Rayner Centre and the University calf barn. Each participant will have the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with live animals, practicing techniques and learning valuable skills to assist them in their day to day operation

Session topics:

- Pain control- dehorning and castration
- Gait scoring- identifying the early stage of lameness
- Calving assistance- proper use of a calving jack, how to avoid leg injuries
- Culling cows- factors to consider when cull cows leave your farm

There will be a $50 participant fee and space is limited to 30 people. Lunch and parking provided.
If you are interested in registering please contact:

Deb Haupstein: deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca
306-721-9486 office
306-536-3860 cell

REGISTRATION WILL BE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

TRACEABILITY - NLID TAGS

For farms that currently use herd management tags and want to switch over to using NLID tags here is some important information:

You can order tags by:

1. Online through your HAC web account
2. Calling NLID at 1-877-771-6543
3. Print and complete the NLID Order form and mail/fax back to:
    - NLID
    - Box 2065
    - Brantford, Ontario
    - N3T 5W5
    - Fax: 519-756-3502

You do not need to be a Holstein Canada member in order to order tags but you will need to set up an account. There are a variety of tag options to choose from. Talk to the customer service representative to determine the tag that will best suit your farm.
Remember that effective Sept 2017 it will be a requirement that heifer calves are tagged using NLID tags.
If you have questions or require further information contact Deb Haupstein at:
deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca 306-721-9486

Saskatchewan Premises Identification (PID)

All producers should have received their Premise Identification number (PID) from the Government of Saskatchewan.

PID facilitates linking livestock and poultry to geographic locations for planning and responding to animal health issues and emergency response, and is one of the three pillars of a livestock traceability system. SaskMilk provided Saskatchewan Agriculture with the base information on all dairy farms so that a PID number could be assigned. We encourage you to provide any additional requested information so that the PID database is as complete as possible.

As a further initiative SaskMilk will be providing a laminated certificate with your farm name, PID number and land location to hang in your milk house.

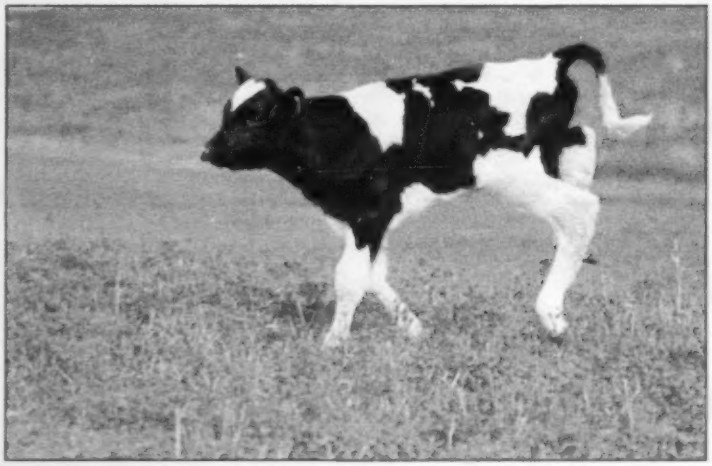
If you require further information or have any questions regarding your PID number, you can contact Deb Haupstein deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca 306-721-9486

150th ANNIVERSARY OF CONFEDERATION

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of Confederation, Dairy Farmers of Canada is planning a video of how dairy farmers built our country. They have asked each province to identify 2-3 of our oldest farms. If you have a multi-generational farm and would like to be involved in this project please call: Joy Smith 306-721-9482 or Deb Haupstein 306-721-9486

The 2017 milk calendar will also be used to showcase a farm each month.

WANTED: HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES AND STEERS



CONSISTENT TWICE A WEEK BABY CALF PICK-UP WITH PROMPT PAYMENT.

COMPETITIVE PRICES

WE ALSO BUY AND PICK UP CULL COWS

LICENSED AND BONDED CATTLE BUYER

William Klok 403 894 9587

Reminder!

The deadline date for Quota Transfer, Quota Exchange, Lease Applications, and 10% Transfer Limit Exemptions is the 6th of each month

Your Quota Transfer, Lease, and 10% Exemption Applications must be received on or before the 6th of the month in order to be effective the 1st of the following month

Quota Exchange forms must be received in the SaskMilk office on or before the 6th of the month for that month's Exchange

If you have any questions please contact Bev Solie at #306-721-9488

TRADEX

Commodity Group Inc.

102-302 Wellman Lane, Saskatoon SK

We are bulk feed ingredient distributors in Western Canada

For all of your **Wheat Dried Distillers** Grain needs call us at **306-975-7066** or visit us on our website www.tradexgroup.net

Who should I call?

Who at the SaskMilk office should producers call? Here's a handy guide!

For…	*Call…*	*At…*
➢ Sponsorship Requests ➢ Donation Requests ➢ Dairyanna's Costume and Events	Anita Medl	306-721-9483
➢ School Milk Program ➢ Nutrition Resource Ordering	Bev Eckert	306-721-9490
➢ Quota Exchange and Private Quota Transfers ➢ Transfer Credits ➢ Security Applications ➢ Estimates for production ➢ Name Changes ➢ Designation of Signing Authority ➢ Monthly production numbers for producers ➢ Producer information for lending institutions ➢ Passwords for quota management sheet access	Bev Solie	306-721-9488
➢ Dairy Conference	Darlene Weighill	306-721-9491
➢ On Farm- licensing, facilities, equipment, driveways, yards, animal care ➢ Lab testing results ➢ Bulk truck drivers- licensing, complaints/issues ➢ Bulk tank calibrations ➢ Pro Action- Food Safety (CQM), Animal Care, Traceability, Biosecurity, Environment	Deb Haupstein	306-721-9486
➢ Producer statements ➢ Banking info for direct deposit of milk pay ➢ Milk pick-up issues –variances in volumes, planning to quit shipping, etc.	Dianne Cardinal	306-721-9489
➢ Monthly milk prices paid to producers ➢ Provincial & National production updates	Doug Miller	306-721-9485
➢ Adding, editing information on Producer Transfer Credit List ➢ Newsletter advertising ➢ Updating email/fax information for producer notices/send outs	Jenn Buehler	306-721-9492
➢ Media or news stories or if you have been contacted by any media agency or reporter ➢ Social media enquiries (twitter etc.) ➢ Trade agreements, international trade updates ➢ DEAP policy/program enquiries ➢ Website enquiries	Joy Smith	306-721-9482

QUOTA EXCHANGE

The market-clearing price established for the August 2016 Quota Exchange was **$32,500.00**

The next Quota Exchange will be held on **September 15, 2016**. All offers to sell and bids to purchase quota through the Quota Exchange must be received at the SaskMilk office by midnight, **September 6, 2016**. SaskMilk recommends that offers and bids be submitted well in advance of the deadline date to ensure adequate time for corrections, if necessary.

When making bids on the Quota Exchange, the price on offers to sell quota is the minimum price that the producer is prepared to accept for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or greater than the producer's minimum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. Conversely, the price on offers to purchase quota is the maximum price that the producer is prepared to pay for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or less than the producer's maximum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. The clearing price is set at the price where the smallest difference exists between the accumulated volume offered for sale and the accumulated volume bid to purchase. The results of the Quota Exchange are outlined in the following Table.

AUGUST 2016 QUOTA EXCHANGE RESULTS SUMMARY

Market Clearing Price per kilogram of butterfat	**$ 32,500.00**	
Daily Kilograms offered to Purchase	**70.00**	
Kilograms offered to Sell	**6.67**	
Kilograms sold	**6.67**	
Number of Producers		
- offered to purchase		**5**
- purchased quota		**2**
- offered to sell		**2**
- sold quota		**2**

AUGUST 2016 QUOTA EXCHANGE CLEARING PRICE RESULTS

Price ($/daily kg b.f.)	No. of Sellers	Cumulative Sellers	Daily Kgs b.f. offered for sale	Cumulative sales	Cumulative Sales less Cumulative purchases	Cumulative purchases	Daily Kgs b.f. offered to purchase	Cumulative bidders	No. of buyers
$31,000.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	-70.00	70.00	10.00	5	1
$32,000.00	1	1	1.67	1.67	-58.33	60.00	10.00	4	1
$32,350.00	0	1	0.00	1.67	-48.33	50.00	30.00	3	1
$32,500.00	1	2	5.00	6.67	-13.33	20.00	20.00	2	2

*** Please contact Bev Solie at 306-949-6999 for inquiries dealing with quota management sheets, the Quota Exchange, for transfer credits, or with any other quota transactions.**

TRANSFER CREDIT SUMMARY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER IN	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL KGS BUTTERFAT
July	14	15	21,727
August	16	15	24,450
September	15	12	20,694
October	17	13	19,725
November	25	19	29,314
December	19	21	26,281
January, 2016	15	12	24,251
February	21	22	16,504
March	13	11	9,444
April	21	19	21,711
May	16	12	12,695
June	13	11	16,170
July	23	18	19,214

PRIVATE TRANSFERS PROCESSED

MONTH	DAILY KILOGRAMS
Aug	234.82
Sept	0.00
Oct	148.25
Nov	10.00
Dec	45.00
Jan-2016	0.00
Feb	1.4
Mar	71.91
Apr	83.55
May	183.00
Jun	123.34
Jul	63.56

OVER QUOTA (OVER 5 DAYS) REPORT BY MONTH

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	KGS BUTTERFAT
July	8	700
August	0	0
September	1	58
October	8	897
November	11	2,898
December	15	2,926
January, 2016	13	5,187
February	15	4,786
March	26	5,829
April	21	3,877
May	16	3,183
June	13	1,559
July	11	604

SUMMARY REPORT OF CREDITS July, 2016 – 159 PRODUCERS

DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	POSITIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
+ 5	11	4,811
0 to + 5	53	24,581
TOTAL	64	29,392
DAYS	**# OF PRODUCERS**	**NEGATIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)**
-15	6	-10,372
-10 to -15	15	-43,668
-5 to -10	34	-37,236
0 to -5	40	-16,663
TOTAL	95	-107,939

LOST OPPORTUNITY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	LOST OPPORTUNITY (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
July 2016	6	1,676
June 2016	6	2,072
May 2016	6	2,349
April 2016	2	625
March 2016	6	3,240
February 2016	5	2,995
January 2016	10	5,285
December 2015	11	3,732
November 2015	11	4,616
October 2015	18	7,584
September 2015	18	9,178
August 2015	16	9,691
July 2015	11	8,975

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMPONENT TESTS & PRICES July, 2016

Components	Average Test	Price per kilogram Class 1 to 5
Butterfat	3.8656	11.299837
Protein	3.2490	8.299837
Other Solids	5.7486	1.172732

Based on the average component tests for the province, the average price received was **$77.3885** per hectolitre. **The average butterfat price received per kilogram was $20.01**

SASKATCHEWAN MILK POOL RESULTS July 2016

Milk Sale Revenue	$ 15,731,499.61
Western Milk Pool	$ 1,261,341.40
Plant of Last Resort Service	$ (56,411.78)
Total Pool Value	**$ 16,936,429.23**

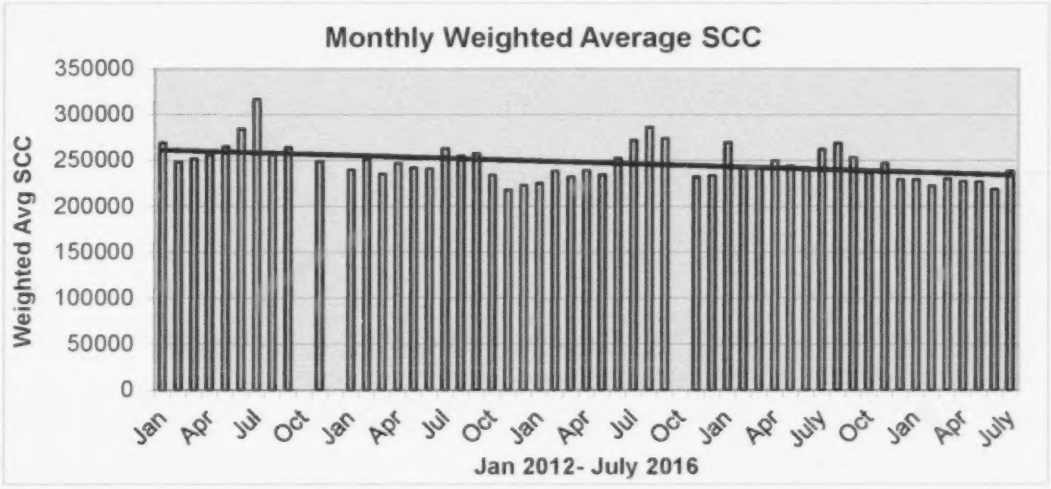
In July, Saskatchewan had a monthly CDC allocation of **835,593 kilograms** of butterfat. In the month of July, Saskatchewan production was **10,851** of butterfat **over** and cumulatively **under** by **-93,265 kilograms** of butterfat. On a percentage basis, Saskatchewan is **-0.92%** within our CDC allocation flexibility limits based on the Continuous Quota model. The -1.50% lower flexibility limit is in effect.

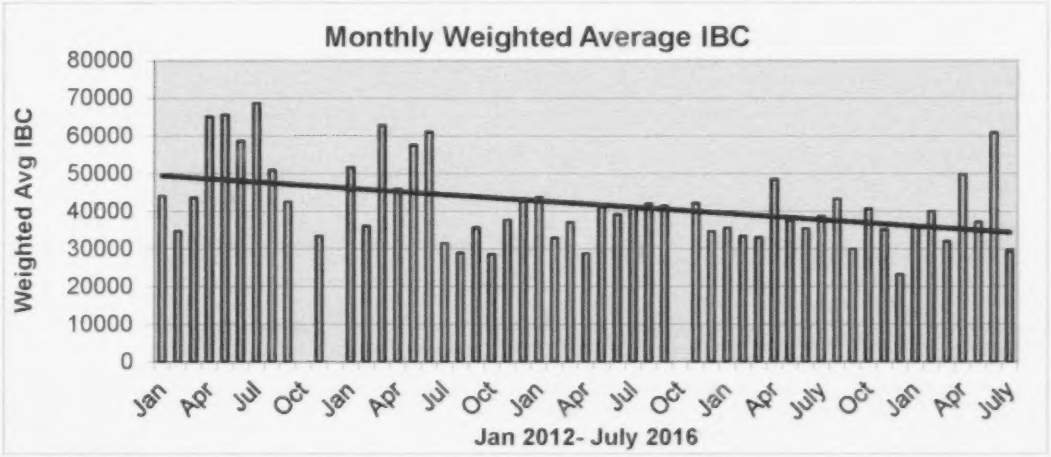
	(1) Monthly Total Production	(2) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation	(3) Monthly Over or (Under) Production	(4) Lower Flexibility Limit **(1.5%)**	(5) Upper Flexibility Limit **1.0%**	(6) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits	(7) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits in - %	(8) Over Quota or (Lost Production Opportunity)	(9) Rolling 12 Month Total Quota
	Kgs bf	Kgs bf	Kgs bf	Kgs bf	Kgs bf	Kgs bf		Kgs bf	Kgs bf
			col. 1 – 2 = 3	col. 9 * -1.5%	col. 9 *1.0%		col. 6 / 9		
Jul-15	810,653	800,163	10,490	(144,358)	48,119	**(55,723)**	**-0.58%**	0	9,623,869
Aug-15	811,771	814,385	(2,614)	(145,053)	48,351	**(66,457)**	**-0.69%**	0	9,670,195
Sept-15	803,418	815,971	(12,553)	(145,388)	48,463	**(72,620)**	**-0.75%**	0	9,692,516
Oct-15	840,719	857,248	(16,529)	(145,757)	48,586	**(89,950)**	**-0.93%**	0	9,717,157
Nov-15	822,399	817,226	5,173	(145,324)	48,441	**(44,269)**	**-0.46%**	0	9,688,278
Dec-15[1]	864,380	962,297	(97,917)	(147,083)	49,028	**(142,067)**	**-1.45%**	0	9,805,509
Jan-16	872,836	873,832	(996)	(148,058)	49,353	**(143,063)**	**-1.45%**	0	9,870,562
Feb-16	811,774	805,091	6,683	(148,960)	49,653	**(136,490)**	**-1.37%**	0	9,930,653
Mar-16	872,863	851,885	20,978	(149,485)	49,828	**(115,512)**	**-1.16%**	0	9,965,640
Apr-16	841,272	817,247	24,025	(149,712)	49,904	**(91,487)**	**-0.92%**	0	9,980,799
May-16	860,608	850,625	9,983	(150,289)	50,096	**(81,504)**	**-0.81%**	0	10,019,240
Jun-16	826,609	849,222	(22,613)	(151,158)	50,386	**(104,116)**	**-1.03%**	0	10,077,201
Jul-16	846,444	835,593	10,851	(151,568)	50,523	**(93,265)**	**-0.92%**	0	10,104,505

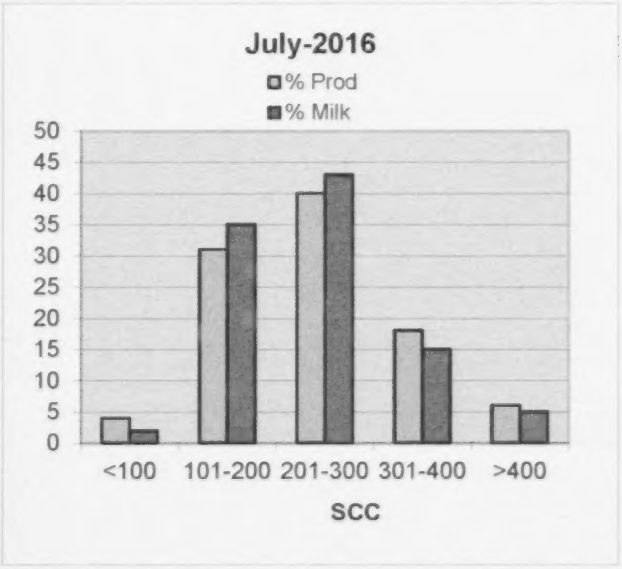
(1) Monthly Production in Saskatchewan
(2) Total Monthly Quota = Class 1 sales + Monthly MSQ + Carry Forward
(3) Difference between the monthly production (1) and the total monthly quota (2)
(4) The Lower Flexibility Limit is -1.5% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
(5) The Upper Flexibility Limit is 1.0% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
(6) Previous Month Cumulative Over or (Under) Production + Current Monthly Over or (Under) Production (capped at lower or upper limit if applicable)
(7) Equal to Column (6) expressed as a percentage basis within the flexibility limits
(8) Over Quota or (Lost production opportunity) outside of flexibility limits
(9) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation for the previous 12 months

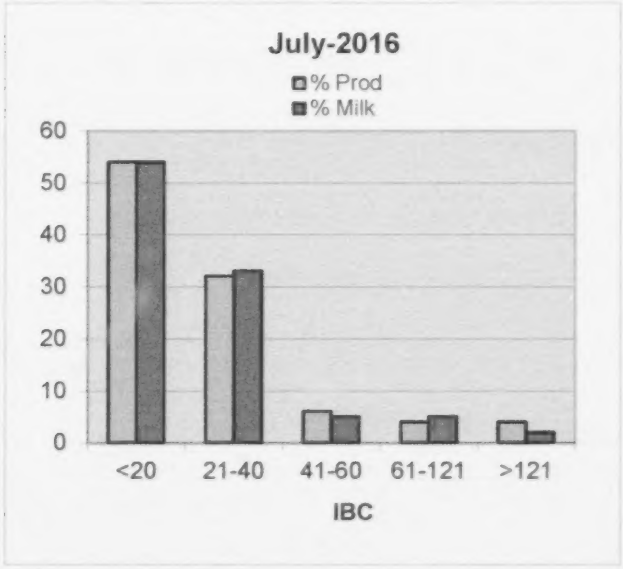
[1] At the CMSMC meeting a temporary 3% Growth Allowance has been added as of Dec 2015.

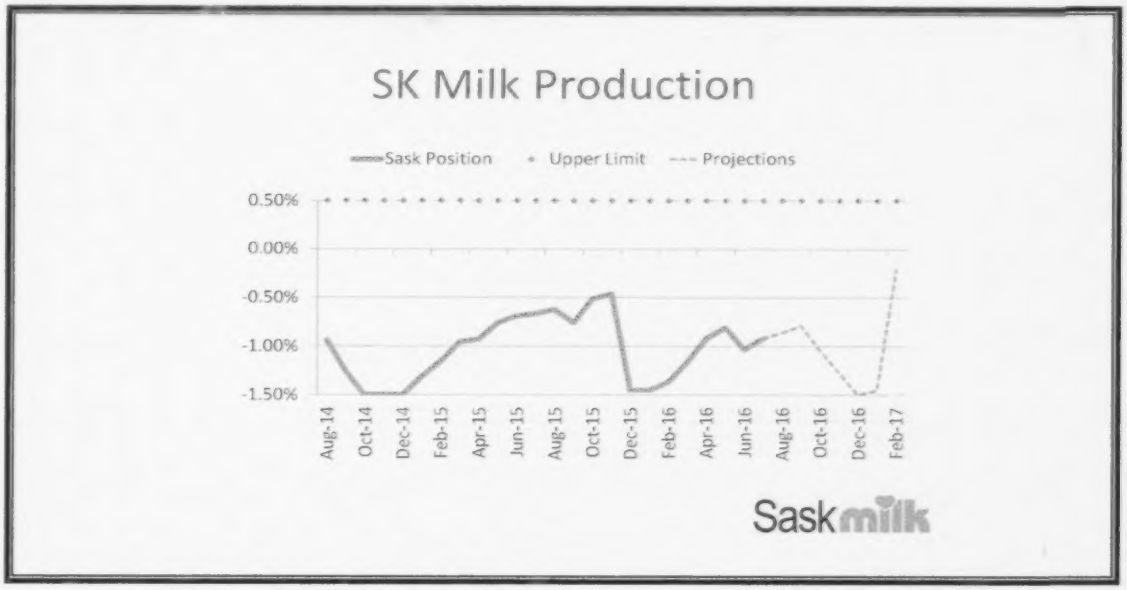
PROVINCIAL WEIGHTED AVERAGES











INHIBITOR TEST STATIONS

SaskMilk has established a number of inhibitor test stations around the province. Producers needing to check their bulk tanks for inhibitors can take a sample to the test station closest to their location.

Charm test strips are available to test for:
Beta-Lactams- the Charm 3 SL3 Beta Lactam test strip tests for amoxicillin, ampicillin, ceftiofur, cephapirin, cloxacillin, and penicillin G

Tetracyclines- the Charm Tetracycline test strip tests for chlortetracycline, oxytetracycline and tetracycline.

Sulfas- the Charm Sulfa test strip tests for sulfacetamide, sulfachlorpyridazine, sulfadiazine, sulfadimethoxine, sulfadoxine, sulfamethoxypyridazine, sulfamerazine, sulfamethazine, sulfamethoxazole, sulfamethoxazole, sulfamethoxypyridazine, sulfapyridine, sulfaquinoxaline, sulfathiazole, and sulfisoxazole.

Test stations are located at the following locations:

1. Swift Current, SK - Agrifoods truck bay - 675 Cheadle Street West
   Office 306-773-1097 or Rodger Ruf 306-741-3261
2. Harris, SK - Cairnside Farm – Wes Cairns 306-656-4807
3. Star City, SK - Star City Colony - Reuben Tschetter 306-921-9381
4. Grenfell, SK - Jim Ross 306-697-2232
5. Yorkton, SK - Ford Dairy Farms Inc. - Bud and Margaret Ford 306-782-7240
6. Saskatoon, SK – Agrifoods Truck Bay - east of the Saputo plant receiving bay
   lead hand - Jim or Clint 306-664-0202 after hours: 306-668-8135

Charm tests strips and Charm testers are now available for purchase through SaskMilk. Agrifoods is now carrying SNAP test kits for tetracyclines as well as beta lactams.

For further information you can contact: Deb Haupstein 306-721-9486

Code of Practice

4.2 Breeding

Breeding management and care of pregnant cows have an impact on the welfare and future performance of cows and calves as herd replacement animals.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

a. establish a veterinary-client-patient relationship (VCPR) to maintain or enhance herd reproductive performance and use a veterinarian for herd reproductive examinations and consultations
b. select sires for calving ease to mate to small framed heifers (avoid dystocia)
c. breed heifers that have achieved adequate body weight and stature
d. keep reproductive and calving records and use them to monitor performance
e. employ trained operators for pregnancy diagnosis, artificial insemination and embryo transfer
f. for natural mating:
• be vigilant about diseases transmitted by natural service
• provide secure footing and adequate ceiling height and freedom from hazards for mounting and breeding behavior
g. match bull weight and stature to heifer or mature cow size and physical condition
h. feed cows and heifers to achieve suitable body condition at breeding and calving time (see Section 2.1 - Body Condition Scoring).

2.1 Body Condition Scoring

Body condition scoring (BCS) is a tool for determining if an animal is too thin, too fat or in ideal condition. Ideal BCS is a range and will vary depending upon stage of lactation (25). Appendix E - Body Condition Scoring Chart, provides information to assess BCS. Evaluators can assign quarter or half scores for animals that fall between two BCS units [...]

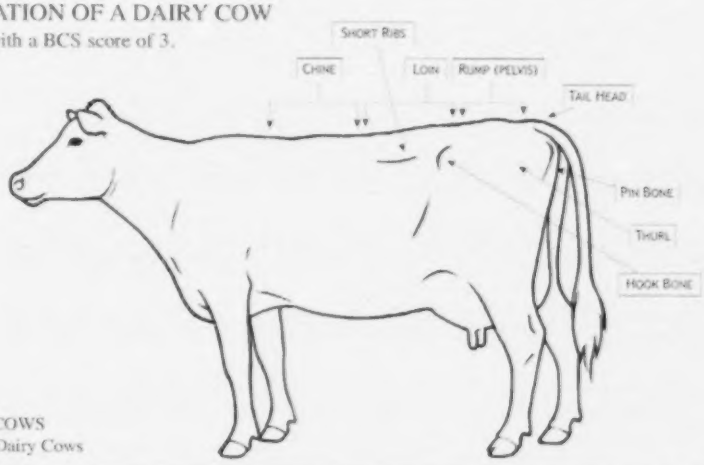
RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

a. use Appendix E - Body Condition Scoring Chart to regularly assess the BCS's of cows
b. aim for the following ideal BCS ranges:
• dry off, 3.25 to 3.75
• calving, 3.25 to 3.75
• early lactation, 2.50 to 3.25
• mid-lactation, 2.75 to 3.25
• late lactation, 3.00 to 3.50
• growing heifers, 2.75 to 3.25
• heifers at calving, 3.25 to 3.75
c. employ corrective measures if more than 15% of the herd is above or below ideal BCS for their stage of lactation (25)
d. keep records - identify animals that are too thin or too fat, ascertain the cause, and fix.

Body Condition Scoring Chart

LABELLED ILLUSTRATION OF A DAIRY COW

Illustration of a Dairy Cow with a BCS score of 3.



BODY CONDITION SCORES FOR DAIRY COWS

Overview of all the body condition scores for Dairy Cows

BCS 1:

SHORT RIBS:
- Ends sharp to touch
- Loin prominent, shelf-like appearance
- Obvious scalloping over top and ends

BACKBONE:
- Vertebrae prominent in chine, loin and rump area
- Individual bones easily visible

HOOK AND PIN BONES:
- Sharply defined, very angular in appearance
- No discernable fat pad

THURL (area over pelvis):
- Severe "V shaped" depression without fat cover

TAIL HEAD:
- Sunken and hollow on either side of tail head with obvious folds of skin
- Ligaments connecting pin bones to spine are sharply defined
- Vulva prominent.

BCS 2

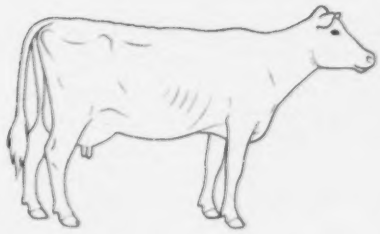
SHORT RIBS:
- Ends not as prominent as BCS 1, but can be felt
- Edges easily felt, with slight fat cover, and slightly more rounded appearance
- Overhanging shelf effect less apparent

BACKBONE:
- Vertebrae in chine, loin and rump area, less visually distinct
- Easily feel individual vertebrae

HOOK AND PIN BONES:
- Bones still prominent, angular
- No fat pad palpable

THURL (area over pelvis):
- Less severe "V shaped" depression
- Little tissue cover

TAIL HEAD:
- Both sides of the tail head are sunken and hollow
- Sharply defined ligaments connecting pin bones to spine



Body Condition Scoring Chart

BODY CONDITION SCORES FOR DAIRY COWS
Overview of all the body condition scores for Dairy Cows

BCS 3

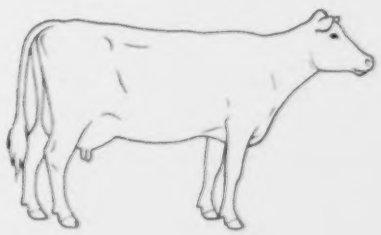
SHORT RIBS:
- Ends can be felt with moderate pressure
- Ribs appear smooth without noticeable scalloping
- Overhanging shelf effect much less apparent

BACKBONE:
- Vertebrae in chine, loin and rump area appear rounded
- Backbone visible, but individual vertebrae not distinct

HOOK AND PIN BONES:
- Visible, but smooth, with rounded appearance
- Fat pad palpable

THURL (area over pelvis):
- Forms "U shaped" depression

TAIL HEAD:
- Both sides of tail head somewhat hollow, but skin folds not distinct
- Ligaments connecting pin bones to spine are rounded in appearance



BCS 4

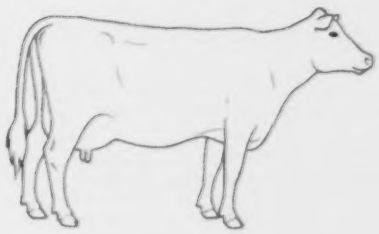
SHORT RIBS:
- Individual rib ends not visible, only felt with firm pressure
- Overhanging shelf effect slight, barely visible

BACKBONE:
- Vertebrae in chine rounded, smooth
- Loin and rump areas appear flat

HOOK AND PIN BONES:
- Rounded, with obvious fat covering

THURL (area over pelvis):
- Area between hooks and pins almost flat
- Pelvic bone only felt with firm pressure

TAIL HEAD:
- Sides of tail head not hollow, no skin folds
- Some fat deposit palpable



BCS 5

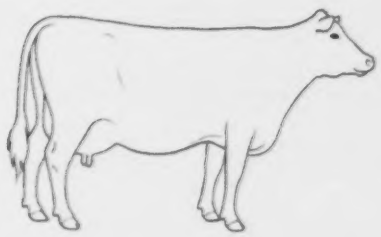
SHORT RIBS:
- Ends can't be seen or felt
- No overhanging shelf effect

BACKBONE:
- Vertebrae in chine, loin and rump not visible
- Difficult to feel individual vertebrae

HOOK AND PIN BONES:
- Very round, buried (almost disappearing) in fat tissue

THURL (area over pelvis):
- Appears flat
- Filled in between the hooks and pins

TAIL HEAD:
- Hollow filled in
- Areas on both sides of tail head buried in fat tissue



Adapted from What's the Score? Body Condition Scoring for Livestock CD-ROM
CD 400/40-1, with permission of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. www.agriculture.alberta.ca
Copies of the CD can be ordered on-line at: http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/sdev9822

Federal Budget changes to Capital Property Rules May Affect Quota Transactions and Taxes

Draft legislation was introduced in the 2016 federal budget that could affect quota (on quota sale transactions after December 31, 2016). If your farm has quota with large accrued gains and you may sell soon, there could be a big impact on taxes. Producers should consult with their accountants or tax advice providers to enquire as to how this might affect their farms; the below is a general summary that is not intended to be a substitute for expert advice.

Corporations and Sole Proprietorships:
The cost of quota purchased/acquired after December 31, 2016 will be added to Class 14.1 (a new class of depreciable property). The depreciation rate for this class will be 5% on a declining balance basis). There are transition rules to provide for the transfer of the existing CEC balances to Class 14.1.

Non-Incorporated Farms:
For sole proprietors and individual partnerships there will be no changes to the taxation when the quota is sold. Amounts previously claimed as depreciation that exceed the undepreciated capital cost may have to be reported as income (with conditions), and 50% of the gain would be reported as capital gain and taxed at the individual's tax rate.

Corporations:
When quota is sold, amounts previously claimed as depreciation that exceed the undepreciated capital cost – up to the original cost of the quota - would be reported as income, and 50% reported as capital gain/investment income.

More information can be found here:

http://www.budget.gc.ca/2016/docs/tm-mf/si-rs-en.html#_Toc445892239

under the heading "Eligible Capital Property"

If You Can't Ship It - Test It!

BSE surveillance is still important and every animal tested makes a difference.

Support your cattle industry by having your 4-D (dead, diseased, dying or downer) cattle tested for BSE.

For more information, call the Canadian Food Inspection Agency at 1-877-727-5273.

QUOTA LISTING or CLASSIFIED AD SERVICE

SaskMilk offers a free quota listing service as part of its Newsletter. Anyone wishing to sell or purchase quota and/or cows or miscellaneous dairy equipment is welcome to contact the SaskMilk office at (306) 949-6999. All prices and negotiations will be independent of SaskMilk. **Please note that ads will be posted in two issues and will then be removed unless SaskMilk is notified otherwise.**

Classifieds

For Sale: 2500 gallon De laval bulk tank **Contact Sheldon Peifer 306-862-7140**

Looking to buy quota – 35 kgs daily **Darcy Loewen 306-493-8201**

100 used DeLaval transponders **306-398-7852**

Want to purchase Quota. **Mel Foth 306-232-3462**

Alfalfa Balage for Sale. Taking Offers. Made with McHale silage baler. Fine cut Dairy Quality. Located at Imperial SK. For feed analysis, **email at bhdetwiller@sasktel.net or call Bill at 306 963 7656**

Custom Creek Farms, Corman Park full service swathing & harvesting, self-propelled w/ 35' cut. Tubgrinding, land clearing, draglining & dry manure spreading**. Call Jesse (306) 321-2332**

Cows for sale. 1st and 2nd lactation. **Call: Ribstone Colony-Jonathan 780-806-3564**

Wanted: Heifers, Springing Heifers, Fresh Heifers. **Darcy Loewen 306-493-8201**

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